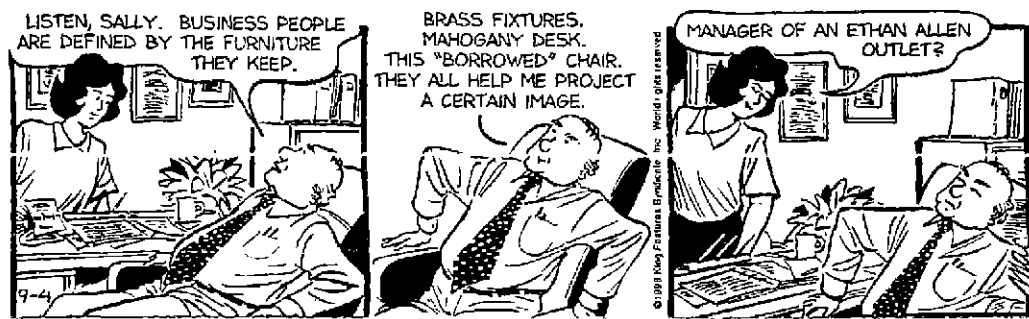


BLONDIE



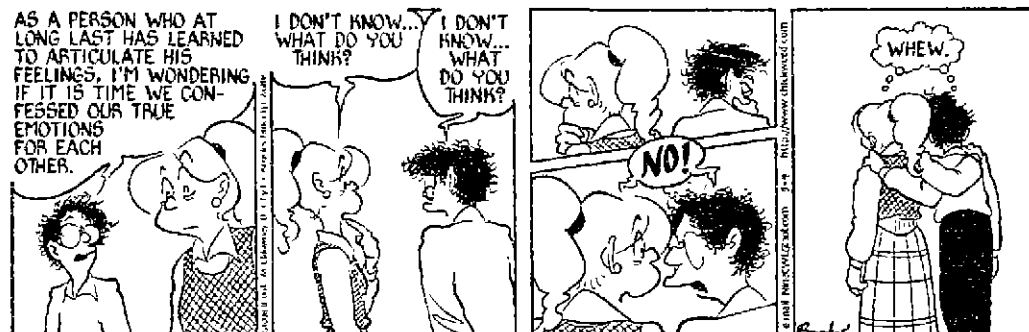
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



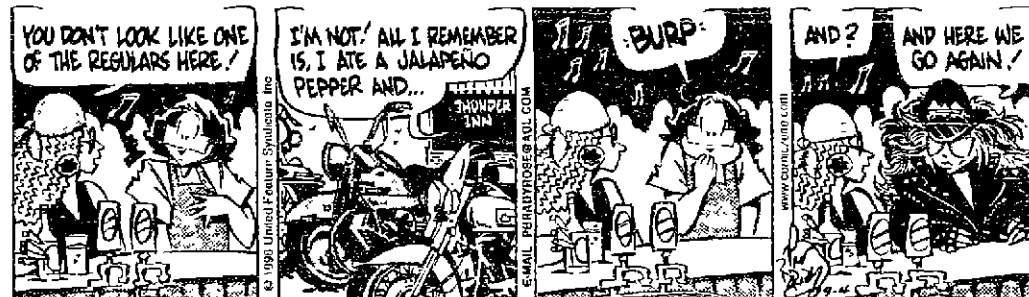
9 CHICKWEED LANE



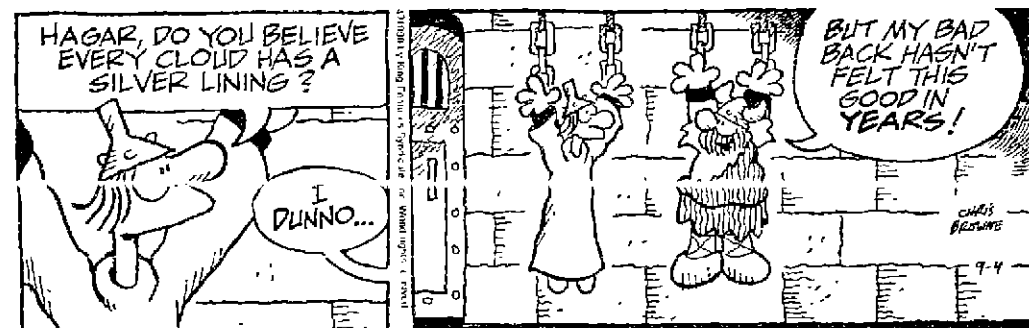
ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



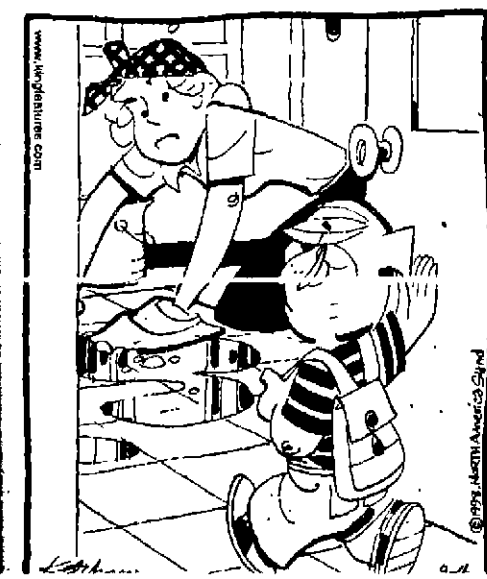
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



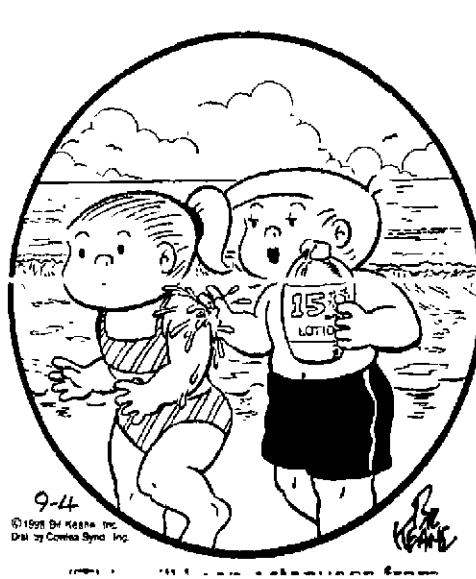
DILBERT



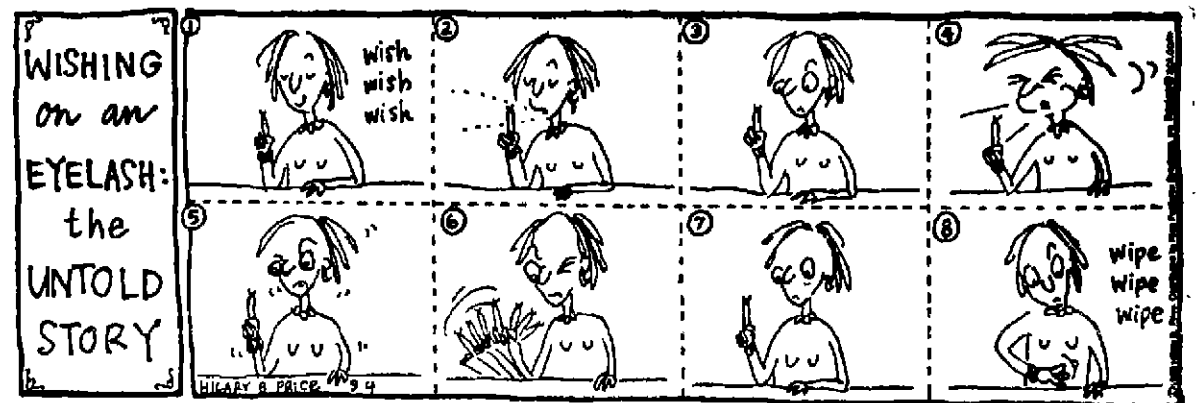
DENNIS THE MENACE



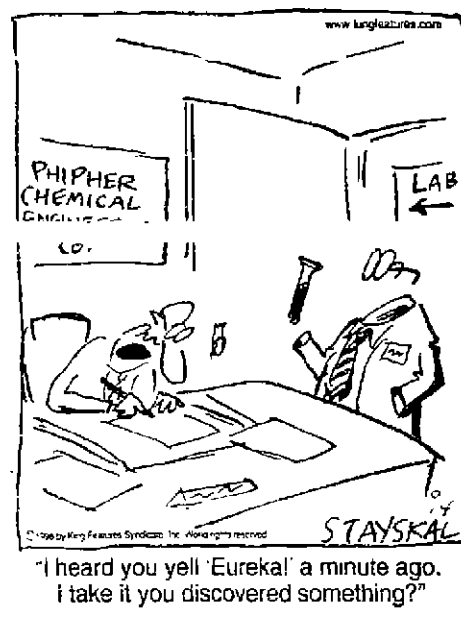
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



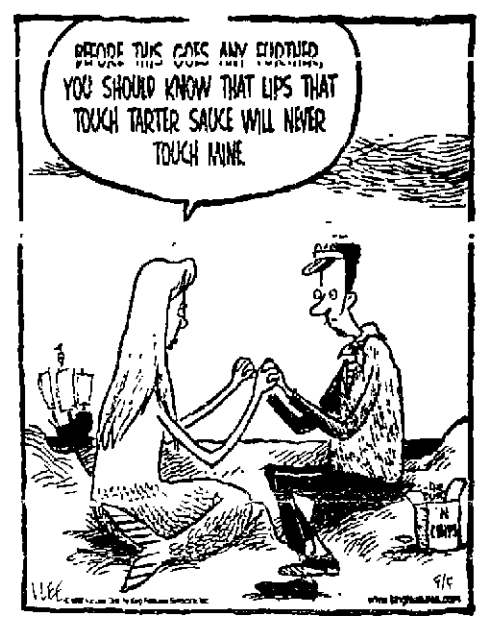
RALPH



Today's Birthdays

ABC Radio commentator **Paul Harvey** is 80. Cooking expert **Craig Claiborne** is 78. Actress **Mitz Gaynor** is 67. Singer **Knight** (Gladys Knight & The Pips) is 56. Actress **Jennifer Salt** is 54. Golfer **Tom Watson** is 49. Rhythm-and-blues musician **Ronald LaPreau** (The Commodores) is 48. Actress **Judith Ivey** is 47. Rock musician **Martin Chambers** (The Pretenders) is 46. Actress **Ione Skye** is 27.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

PAR SCORE 130-140 by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Vernan Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Gnambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Saturday, Sept. 5, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Put off new projects for another day. Complete old tasks and tie up loose ends before moving on.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A quick response may not be the best answer, so make sure you have all the facts before replying.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You'll have to prove the merit of your ideas to an authority figure before you can start implementing your new project.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your emotions will come full circle, so expect the pendulum to swing between sheer pleasure and utter disgust.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) People aren't going to be completely honest with you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) You'll be trusted with a great secret, and you must fight the temptation to spread it around.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Making an effort might bring you greater rewards than the end results of a given project.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Plan a party and invite everyone you know. The key word is inclusion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You need a boost to get your ideas off the ground. Spread your innovations around and find your motor.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Those who play to your sense of compassion will get under your skin. But make room for them to burrow into your life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Brainstorming is great, but you need to act toward making ideas real.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) By default, you have become the leader of a new project. The support you need will follow.

WORD SLEUTH

— star

Q I E B X U Q N G J G D Z W T
Q N K H D A X U P N O R P M J
G D A X V S M O R N I N G Q E
N K I F D A L K R A D S N T Z
X V T W Q E O M Y J A O I F N
H F C A O Y L W K H R H T R O
U R P N L L J B C T W H O A R
F D B Z A X L V U R T R O W B
Q O M K I H F E L O D E H D D
B Z Y W V T N R Y N D Q S O N
L K I H F D C A Z X W V U S R

Thursday's unlisted clue: SURFING

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Friday's unlisted clue hint: COPPER AND TIN

All	Lode	North	Shooting
Dark	Lucky	Pole	White
Double	Morning	Radio	Yellow
Dwarf	Neutron	Rising	

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For solution, see Classified.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

"What a fix!" lamented an unhappy duplicate player. "First they stagger into a cold 21-point game. Then they make it — with two finesses offside!" "They bid the same game against us," replied his friend. "But we held their 'cold' game to nine tricks." How was this piece of magic accomplished? At the first table, dummy's spade ace won, and South ruffed a spade to start trumps. He led the 10, and West grabbed his ace and led another spade. South ruffed, drew West's last trump and tried both minor-suit finesses. They both lost, but it didn't matter. South emerged with 10 winners anyway. The bidding was the same at the second table, but the play wasn't. After South ruffed a spade to lead toward dummy's trump king, West didn't hop up to cash his ace. Instead, he played an innocent-looking queen. What was South to believe? Was West falsecarding with the doubleton Q-J, or did he have a singleton queen? If it were a singleton, South would lose two trump tricks anyway, so South opted to play to drop East's singleton ace. Horrors! West took two trump tricks. Instead of one, and when both minor-suit finesses were offside, South could win only nine tricks. What about West's unusual play in trumps? Why not? What did he have to lose? If he took his ace, his queen would fall on the next round. So why not play the queen immediately and hope for a miracle instead?

NORTH 09-04-A
♠ A 7 2
♥ K 7 6 5
♦ A Q 7
♣ K 7 5

WEST
♠ 10 6 4
♥ A Q
♦ 10 9 6 3
♣ Q 10 9 6

EAST
♠ K Q J 9 8 5
♥ J
♦ K J 4 2
♣ A 4 2

SOUTH
♠ 3
♥ 10 9 8 4 3 2
♦ 6 5
♣ A J 8 3

Declarer: North

The bidding:
North 1NT East 2♠ South 3♥ West 3♠
1NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Spade four

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0724

ACROSS

1 Some noncoms
16 Risking danger
17 So as to annoy
18 Cheerful
19 Leave a mess
20 Some docs
21 Biscuit ingredient
22 Kind of col. or cmdr.
23 Start of a carol's refrain
24 British verb ending
25 Bruce of old movies
26 Basque topper
27 They're spotted in Africa

DOWN

29 Salt of element #5
30 Forward
31 Resting place
32 Neglectful
33 Big Apple V.I.P.
34 Pitch
40 Jai alai basket
41 Skedaddle
42 Odd and even, at times
43 Severe blows
44 Smoother
45 Milk source
46 Truman's birthplace
47 "The — Kid"
48 Some Slim Fast offerings
51 Distractive annoyance

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

MADE INAT BLESS
ETIA REDO LIMIT
TOSS EWER AVILA
AGHEELS PBEELLY
ALTAR ORBS
APR UNE ROE BOW
FEMAI DEN WRAITH
IDOL LES NOTE
RANDOM AUFINGER
ELY MAP REN ERE
ABIE ELTON
PTBLOND NIODEON

13 Western New York county
14 One with instant siblings
18 Having feeling
22 Tellers of tales
23 Iron-containing Prefix
25 Protested event
26 When repeated, a college cheer
28 "How the West was won" with others
29 Matches

31 The 51st Psalm
32 Diane's successor on "Cheers"
33 Utopian novel of 1872
34 Dispense, as small shares
36 Form of some dynamite
37 Emerging
38 Duties

40 Chevrolet introduced in 1966
43 Second-century anatomist
44 Cowboy's rope
46 French novelist Piere
47 China problem
48 Brain and spinal cord: Abbr.
50 Grads-to-be

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-800-451-4514

Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years. 1-888-7-ACROSS.